Professor Researches Effects of Oil Spill on Land-Dwelling Animals

Polycentric

The millions of gallons of oil that spilled from the Deepwater Horizon in 2010 may be finding its way out of the ocean and into the bodies of land-dwelling animals, according to a new study by a Cal Poly Pomona biology professor.

The research is potentially groundbreaking because it appears to show for the first time that the oil spill could be affecting creatures that don’t live in the ocean.

“We tend to think of terrestrial ecosystems as safe from oil contamination,” says Andrea Bonisoli Alquati, a Cal Poly Pomona biology professor specializing in environmental toxicology.
“However, the boundary between marine and terrestrial ecosystems is much less defined than we assume.”

Students Build Device for Inaugural Passcode Hacking Competition

The last thing that Joe Needleman expected at a cyber security competition was for the showdown to get shut down because of a real-life hacker.

Needleman and Nate Hom represented a team of Cal Poly Pomona students at the inaugural Passcode Cup hacking competition in Washington, D.C. The Passcode Cup aims to diversify and train the next generation of cybersecurity professionals, and also offers networking opportunities for students and a recruitment venue for industry leaders.

Ironically, as Needleman and Hom were setting up a device they built for the competition, a major denial of service attack shut down the server that provides internet access to a wide swath of the East Coast. It wasn’t just the Cal Poly Pomona builders who were affected. The likes of Amazon, Reddit, Netflix and PayPal also were shut out.

Professor Andrea Bonisoli
Alquati Researches Effects of Oil Spill on Land-Dwelling Animals
–Sierra 2016
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New Grants and Awards

**Jeremy Claisse (PI), Department of Biological Sciences**

**Homeyra Sadaghiani (PI), Department of Physics & Astronomy**

**Nicole Wickler (PI), CEMaST**

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